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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. DEGETTE).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
March 19, 2010.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DIANA DEGETTE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord, our God, be our helper and protector. This Nation was born out of the dreams of freedom and the enlightenment of human potential. Help us, in our day, to realize fulfillment of the hopes and expectations of Your people.

"Faith is the confident assurance concerning what we hope for and the conviction about things unseen. Through faith we perceive that the world was created by the Word of God, and what is now visible came into being through the invisible."

Lord, our Founders all died in faith. They did not obtain what was promised, but saw it from afar. They were always searching for a better and lasting homeland. Faith is therefore a hopeful pilgrimage to Your presence, now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. HERGER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. HERGER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. There is one group of people we don't talk about enough with respect to the health insurance debate. That is young people. They're the most likely group of people in this country to go uninsured, but they get sick, and when they get sick, they often become saddled with debts that stay with them and their families for the rest of their lives.

With the health insurance reform bill this House will pass that all changes. We have included affordability credits that will help young adults who are at the beginning of their career and earning less income to get insurance. We aim to give people stability by guaranteeing affordable insurance marketplaces for those who switch their jobs, start their own businesses, or seek more education, as younger people are more likely to do.

And maybe most importantly, immediately on passage of the bill, we allow young people up to the age of 26 to stay on their parents' health insurance.

There is nothing more valuable in life than your health, but for far too many young people, protecting their health is simply too expensive.

Let's move forward on health insurance reform for them.

SLAUGHTER SOLUTION

(Mr. HERGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HERGER. Madam Speaker, the Democratic leadership has been pushing the Slaughter solution rule to send the Senate health care bill to the President's desk without a separate House vote.

A vote for this rule is a vote for the Cornhusker kickback, a vote for the Louisiana purchase, and a vote for every other backroom deal in the bill. It's a vote for taxpayer-funded abortion. It's a vote to force Americans to buy from the same health insurance companies that the President has been attacking but at even a higher price.

Madam Speaker, Congress needs to understand that the American people won't be fooled. A vote for the Slaughter solution rule is a vote for the Senate's disastrous government takeover of health care. Vote "no."

WOMEN AND HEALTH CARE

(Ms. MCCOLLUM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Rising health care costs and inadequate coverage burden many Americans, women in particular. It's unfair and it's wrong.

Women can be denied and charged a higher insurance premium than men for just having what's called a preexisting condition. Let me give you an example of what that preexisting condition is.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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